

THE OFFICE OF CENSORSHIP
Washington (25)

CONFIDENTIAL

July 18, 1945.

SPECIAL WATCH INSTRUCTION NO. 312 (REVISED)

Requested by:

Treasury Department, Foreign Economic Administration and
Office of Strategic Services.

Names to watch:

Subjects indexed to this S.W.I. are part of or connected with
the SOFINA group.

Background:

The SOFINA group is one of the largest public utility and
industrial holding combinations in Europe, with headquarters
in Brussels. SOFINA has large interests in Germany and
former German-occupied territory as well as in Spain,
Portugal and the Eastern Hemisphere. Throughout the
European phase of the war close relations were allegedly
maintained between SOFINA officers in Allied and neutral
countries and leading German bankers and industrialists
via the board of directors of CHADE, a SOFINA subsidiary,
which still includes Hermann J. Abs, Karl Kimmich of the
Deutsche Bank and Hermann Buecher of AEG (Allgemeine
Elektrizitaets-Gesellschaft). It is believed that SOFINA
activities, such as the formation of new companies, the
transfer of funds and personnel and the payment of divi-
dends, provide channels of safe haven for German interests.

What is wanted:

Information on all activities of the SOFINA group which
indicate safe haven; information on routine operations is
NOT wanted unless there is clear indication that safe
haven is involved.

Action:

Postal: prepare submissions and release if unobjectionable
to Censorship.

Cable: copies; telephone: summaries.

THIS REVISED S.W.I. SUPERSEDES S.W.I./312 OF SEPTEMBER 13, 1944.

Byron Price,
Director.

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCES METHODS EXEMPTION 391
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2001 2006

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

File in []